

University "Goce Delchev" Stip, Macedonia  
Faculty of Medical Sciences



# FIRST INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM FOR TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE

"THE BODY IS YOUR TEMPLE - KEEP IT  
PURE AND CLEAN FOR THE SOUL TO  
RESIDE IN"



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### **Oral health status of children with special health care needs in Shtip**

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#### **Abstract**

**Introduction** - Special needs children are handicapped children who are suffering from various systematic disorders such as physical, developmental, mental, sensory, behavioral, cognitive, emotional impairment. The main aim of this study was to determinate the oral health status of children with special needs in municipality of Shtip, as a high risk group for dental diseases.

**Material and Methods** - Thirty children with special needs were included in the study. Determination of condition of the dentition and plaque index were done. The presence of dental plaque and condition of the teeth were determinate with Silness and Loe plaque index and Decayed, Missing, Filled (DMF) index.

**Results** - Average value of Silness and Loe plaque index was 2.11, which shows very bad oral hygiene among subjects. The mean value of DMFT index among subjects was 12.3. Sixty-four percent had plaque index more than two, which means that they maintain unsatisfactory oral hygiene. The mean value of decayed teeth was 4.25, which means that children have a high prevalence of caries and should take appropriate measures for removing dental caries and adequate permanent fillings of those teeth.

**Conclusion** - Oral health of children with special needs is bad and urgent attention is needed for planning a comprehensive dental care program for them.

**Keywords:** children with special needs, handicapped children, DMFT, Silness and Loe plaque index